PATENT Atty. Dkt. No. WEAT/0474

REMARKS

Claims 1-35 are pending in the application and are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. The claims have been restricted under 35 U.S.C. § 121 as follows:

- Claims 1-28, drawn to method of seismically surveying a formation around a wellbore, classified in class 702, subclass 14; and
- Claims 29-35, drawn to seismic sensing system comprising casing disposed in a wellbore, classified in class 73, subclass 152.16.

Applicants provisionally elect Group I (claims 1-28), with traverse. The Examiner states that the method can be practiced in an uncased wellbore. Similarly, a system of amended claim 29 does not require casing. Further, the method of dependent claim 11 includes "deploying the sensors against a casing disposed in the wellbore." Therefore, Applicant submits that system claims 29-35 are not distinct from method claims 1-28. Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal or modification of the restriction requirement. Applicants respectfully request prosecution of claims 1-35.

Respectfully submitted.

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